

11/2017

Meaningful Use Stage 3 (MU3) Readiness for Syndromic Surveillance

In 2013, [Tri-County Health Department](#) and [Denver Public Health](#) co-jointly began participating in the National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP) in 2013 and since 2016, an expanded effort includes [Boulder County Public Health](#) and [Jefferson County Public Health](#). This Colorado North Central Region partnership (NSSP CO-NCR) includes local public health agencies and meaningful use eligible hospital facilities from Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson Counties. Colorado does not have statewide syndromic surveillance reporting to meet this objective at this point.

Declaration of Readiness to Receive Syndromic Surveillance Data for MU3

Currently, all local public health agencies (LPHAs) in the NSSP CO-NCR receive electronic syndromic surveillance data from eligible hospitals, and their associated emergency departments, in Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson Counties, seeking MU3 incentive payments.

NSSP CO-NCR area hospitals intending to meet MU3 public health syndromic surveillance data transmission objective must register their intent to do so with their LPHA within 60 days of their MU3 reporting period. Based on MU3 requirements, the objective is to ensure that the eligible hospitals (EH) or critical access hospitals (CAH) are in active engagement with a public health agency to submit electronic public health data in a meaningful way using Certified Electronic Health Record Technology (CEHRT). If EH or CAH facilities choose syndromic surveillance as one of the core requirements for MU3, [the measure for syndromic surveillance](#) data reporting is that the EH or CAH is in active engagement with a public health agency to submit syndromic surveillance data. In addition, EH or CAH should engage with the designated public health agency to explore the possibility of submitting urgent care data. . Please find objectives, measures, final rules, and other information about MU3 on [the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#) website.

NSSP CO-NCR LPHAs will facilitate and support hospitals testing and validating data transmission and provide acknowledgment to area hospitals that achieve ongoing syndromic surveillance data submission based on the national MU3 requirements along with any additional [data requirements](#) for facilities submitting syndromic surveillance data in Colorado. Detailed instructions on how hospitals send data are generally provided once hospitals register their intent, and can be found at this [site](#). Transmission of syndromic surveillance data may be completed through an established relationship with the Colorado Regional Health Information Organization (Heather Culwell at hculwell@corhio.org or 720-285-3202) or by direct connection to other web-based services.

For more information on syndromic surveillance and working with your LPHA, please contact:

- Adams, Arapahoe, and Douglas Counties: Yushiuan Chen at ychen@tchd.org or 720-200-1481
- Denver County: Cali Zimmerman at Cali.Zimmerman@dhha.org or 303-602-3625
- Boulder County: Talia Brown at tlbrown@bouldercounty.org or 303-441-1329
- Jefferson County: Christine Billings at cbilling@co.jefferson.co.us or 303-271-8394
- Facilities outside of the counties listed above, please contact Andrew Horvath from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment at andrew.horvath@state.co.us or 303-692-2025